

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING
BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 11 AUGUST 1993

===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 0951-1-01 (ACCNO 6222) Status: (Z) DEAD BODY NOT RECOVERED
Name: BURNS, FREDERICK JOHN Date Status assigned: 26 Dec 1967

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	#
Service	MARINE CORPS	Sex	MALE	Blood type	# #
Grade	E2	Hair	BROWN	Complexion	RUDDY
SSAN	DATA	Eyes	BLUE	Weapon	#
Serial No	2291773	Height	71 in / 1.80 mtrs	Weapon No	#
Birth date	11 Jun 1949	Weight	148 lb / 67.0 kg	Duty pos	RIFLEMAN
Home State	NEW YORK	Religion	CATHOLIC	PW Camp	QUANG NAM PRO

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

INCIDENT LOCATION (0) LAST KNOWN LOCATION (1)

Site Type:	GROUND SITE	49PZC090318
UTM:	49PBT089659	103910N / 1281211E
Lat/Long:	155724N / 1081649E	
Country:	SOUTH VIETNAM	
Military Region:	1	
Mission Province:	QUANG NAM-DA NANG	
(formerly):	QUANG NAM	
Mission District:	DIEN BAN	
Mission Date:	26 Dec 1967	
Mission Category:	3	
Local Analysis:	None.	Near populated area.

===== JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY =====

Folders Passed: Mar 92, Mar 89, Aug 87
Investigations: Apr 92
Additional Information Obtained: Apr 89, Aug 90
Vessey Case: NO
Case type: DISCREPANCY

===== VEHICLE DATA =====

Vehicle Type:	GRND	Serial:	\$
Crash Type:	None	Engine Type:	
Call Sign:	\$	1 Serial:	
Year:	\$	2 Serial:	

===== SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY =====

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CASE: 0951

=== CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS ===

3 December 1975

ON 25 DECEMBER 1967 PVT FREDERICK J. BURNS, RIFLEMAN, WAS A MEMBER OF A 10-MAN SQUAD NIGHT PATROL. HIS PRESENCE WAS MISSED SOME TIME AFTER HIS SQUAD MOVED OUT FROM GRID COORDINATES (GC) BT 089 659 IN SOUTH VIETNAM. ACCORDING TO CPT FLOYD KUSHNER'S DEBRIEFING, PVT BURNS WAS CAPTURED ON 26 DECEMBER 1967 WHILE ATTEMPTING TO RETURN TO DA NANG, AFTER BEING SEPARATED FROM HIS PATROL. CPT KUSHNER STATED THAT PVT BURNS ADJUSTED POORLY TO CONFINEMENT, HE SUFFERED PSYCHOLOGICAL REGRESSION, (SUCKING HIS THUMB, DEFECATING IN HIS PANTS, ETC), AND DIED OF MALNUTRITION.

ANOTHER RELEASEE CLAIMED THAT PVT BURNS WAS BURIED OUTSIDE THE POW CAMP LOCATED SOMEWHERE BETWEEN CHU LAI AND TAM KY IN QUANG NAM PROVINCE, SOUTH VIETNAM. THE NVA CAPTORS ADVISED THAT MAPS WERE MADE SHOWING BURIAL SITES OF ALL POWS AND THAT THESE MAPS WOULD BE TURNED OVER TO U.S. AUTHORITIES AT THE END OF HOSTILITIES. THE DRV/PRG LIST INDICATES THAT PVT BURNS DIED IN CAPTIVITY IN SOUTH VIETNAM ON 2 JANUARY 1969. (REF 1, 2 & 3)

DURING THE EXISTENCE OF JCRC, THE HOSTILE THREAT IN THE AREA PRECLUDED ANY VISITS TO OR GROUND INSPECTIONS OF THE SITES INVOLVED IN THIS CASE. ON SEVERAL OCCASSIONS IN 1973 AND 1974, THE U.S. DELEGATION TO THE FOUR-PARTY JOINT MILITARY TEAM ASKED THE COMMUNIST (PRG) DELEGATION FOR INFORMATION ON THE LOCATION OF THE GRAVE OF THIS INDIVIDUAL, AS WELL AS THOSE OF THE OTHER INDIVIDUALS OFFICIALLY LISTED AS HAVING DIED IN CAPTIVITY. THE U.S. ALSO PRESSED THE COMMUNISTS FOR DISCUSSIONS OF PROCEDURES BY WHICH THE REMAINS OF THESE INDIVIDUALS WOULD BE RETURNED TO U.S. CONTROL.

NO POSITIVE RESPONSE WAS EVER FORTHCOMING FROM THE COMMUNISTS TO ANY OF THESE OVERTURES. PVT BURNS IS CURRENTLY CARRIED IN THE PRESUMPTIVE STATUS OF DEAD, BODY NOT RECOVERED.

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=== NEGOTIATION ACTIONS ===

20 April 1985

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JCRC DISCUSSED THIS CASE WITH THE VNOSMP DURING THE 25-28 JULY 1988 TECHNICAL MEETING IN HANOI. (REF 4)

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ON 6 AUG 1990 A JOINT U.S./SRV INVESTIGATION TEAM INTERVIEWED WITNESSES IN DANANG CITY, QUANG NAM-DANANG PROVINCE, WHO WERE SAID TO HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH THE MR5 POW CAMP. A GENERAL AREA WHERE THE CAMP CEMETARY WAS LOCATED WAS IDENTIFIED, AND A NAME WAS MENTIONED BY ONE OF THE

CASE: 0951

WITNESSES WHICH CORRELATED TO REFNO 0951. THE TEAM ATTEMPTED TO VISIT THE CAMP BUT WAS DENIED ACCESS BY THE VNOSMP. (REF 5)

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14 September 1993

THE JOINT TEAM INTERVIEWED ONE WITNESS WHO ALLEGEDLY PARTICIPATED IN THE CAPTURE OF AN AMERICAN SOLDIER IN THE DIEN DUONG VILLAGE AREA (BT 0965), AND SUBSEQUENT TRANSFER OF SAID PRISONER TO TWO MEMBERS OF THE DA NANG DISTRICT III FORCE. THE WITNESS PROVIDED HEARSAY THAT THIS AMERICAN PRISONER WAS TRANSPORTED AND HELD AT A PRISON CAMP IN THE TRUONG SON MOUNTAINS. (REF 8)

8 October 1993

ON 25 AUG 93, IE3 TRAVELLED TO DIEN BAN DISTRICT, QUANG NAM-DA NANG PROVINCE TO INVESTIGATE CASE 0951. VNOSMP OFFICIALS CLAIMED THEY COULD NOT LOCATE ANY WITNESSES FOR THIS CASE. A LIST OF TWELVE WITNESSES WAS PRESENTED TO VIETNAMESE OFFICIALS. HOWEVER, NO WITNESSES WERE PRESENTED FOR INTERVIEW. THE NEAREST LANDING ZONE TO THIS SITE IS OVER 15 KILOMETERS AWAY. DUE TO THE REMOTE MOUNTAINOUS TERRAIN, DENSE JUNGLE AND GREAT DISTANCE TO TRAVEL ON FOOT, THE TEAM COULD NOT CONDUCT A SEARCH OF THIS AREA SAFELY. THE TEAM CONDUCTED AN AERIAL SEARCH OF THE INCIDENT LOCATION MAINTAINED IN U.S. RECORDS AND FOUND NO EVIDENCE OF A PRISON CAMP. NO REMAINS OR MATERIAL EVIDENCE WERE FOUND DURING THE INVESTIGATION OF THIS CASE. A LIST OF POTENTIAL WITNESSES THAT COULD POSSIBLY LEAD A JOINT TEAM TO THE CAMP WAS PRESENTED TO VIETNAMESE OFFICIALS. HOWEVER, NONE OF THESE PEOPLE WERE LOCATED DURING THE 25TH JOINT FIELD ACTIVITY. THE VNOSMP DID NOT MAKE A SERIOUS ATTEMPT TO LOCATE THESE WITNESSES. (REF

CASE: 0951

11)

15 February 1994

ON 13 AND 14 JAN 94, A PORTION OF RE1 CONDUCTED A SITE SURVEY NEAR TRA KEH VILLAGE, TRA BONG DISTRICT, QUANG NGAI PROVINCE. THE SITE IS LOCATED AT GRID COORDINATE 49PBS1265082363. THE GRID COORDINATE WAS VERIFIED USING THE TRIMBLE TRIMPACK RECEIVER FOR THE GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM, TRACKING FIVE SATELLITES. THE SITE IS LOCATED ALONG THE RIDGE OF A STEEP MOUNTAIN. WHAT WAS ONCE A PW CAMP HAS SINCE BEEN ENTIRELY CLEARED BY THE LOCAL VILLAGERS FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES. THE PROJECT AREA IS LOCATED ON RELATIVELY FLAT TERRAIN, AND IT TOO HAS BEEN CLEARED OF ALL EXISTING VEGETATION. AN LZ CAN BE MADE AT THE SITE. THIS WOULD PREVENT A RECOVERY TEAM, WITH EQUIPMENT, FROM HIKING THE ENTIRE TRAIL AND MINIMIZE THE CHANCE FOR SERIOUS INJURY. A BASECAMP CAN BE SET UP NEAR THE SITE. THE SITE ITSELF MEASURES APPROXIMATELY 30 X 30 METERS, AND WILL TAKE 15 TO 20 DAYS TO EXCAVATE UNDER FAVORABLE WEATHER CONDITIONS. (REF 13)

=== ARCHIVAL RESEARCH INFORMATION ===

30 August 1993

IN APRIL 1993, THE SRV PROVIDED A DOCUMENT TO GENERAL VESSEY TITLED, "REPORT OF DEATH OF AMERICAN PRISONER FREDERICK J. BURNS, DIED 02/02/68; OUTLINE OF PERSONAL HISTORY AND REPORT OF DEATH OF FREDERICK J. BURNS". THE DOCUMENT CORRELATES TO REFNO 0951-1-01 BASED ON NAME, DATE AND LOCATION OF LOSS AND WITNESS TESTIMONY OF INCIDENT. (REF 7)

23 September 1993

SRV DOCUMENT PROVIDED APRIL 93, TITLED "ROSTER OF AMERICAN PRISONERS WHO DIED AND FOREIGN CIVILIANS CAPTURED IN THE CENTRAL REGION" POSSIBLY CORRELATES TO REFNO 0951-1-01. LINE ENTRY #8 PROBABLY CORRELATES TO REFNO 0951-1-01, BASED ON REFNO'S NAME. (REF 9)

28 September 1993

SRV DOCUMENT PROVIDED IN APR 93, TITLED "LIST OF AMERICAN PRISONERS THAT DIED IN THE SOUTH AFTER THEIR CAPTURE," CORRELATES TO REFNO 0951-1-01. LINE ENTRY #24 CORRELATES BASED ON THE INDIVIDUAL'S NAME. (REF 10)

15 October 1993

ON 1 SEP 93, THE VIETNAMESE TURNED OVER BRIEF CASE ASSESSMENTS FOR EACH OF THE 27 DIED IN CAPTIVITY CASES. THE ASSESSMENTS WERE IN RESPONSE TO A U.S. PRESENTATION OF THE D.I.C. LIST AS GUIDE FOR SPECIAL REMAINS TEAM INVESTIGATION. ONE OF THESE CASES WAS REFNO 0951, WHICH THE VIETNAMESE

CASE: 0951

RECOMMENDED FOR CONTINUED JOINT INVESTIGATION. (REF 12)

5 May 1994

ON 14 DECEMBER 1993, THE SRV PROVIDED SEVERAL DOCUMENTS RELATED TO 84 CASES ASSIGNED TO THE JTF-FA SPECIAL REMAINS TEAM (SRT). ONE DOCUMENT TITLED, "REGARDING U.S. PERSONNEL WHO DIED WHILE HELD CAPTIVE IN SOUTHERN VIETNAM", PROVIDES INFORMATION CORRELATING WITH REFNO 0951-1-01, AN UNRESOLVED CASE. CORRELATION IS BASED ON NAME, RANK, SERVICE NUMBER AND DATE AND LOCATION OF LOSS. (REF 14)

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ON 6 AUG 1990 A JOINT U.S./SRV INVESTIGATION TEAM INTERVIEWED WITNESSES IN DANANG CITY, QUANG NAM-DANANG PROVINCE, WHO WERE SAID TO HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH THE MR5 POW CAMP. A GENERAL AREA WHERE THE CAMP CEMETARY WAS LOCATED WAS IDENTIFIED, AND A NAME WAS MENTIONED BY ONE OF THE WITNESSES WHICH CORRELATED TO REFNO 0951. THE TEAM ATTEMPTED TO VISIT THE CAMP BUT WAS DENIED ACCESS BY THE VNOSMP. (REF 5)

=== ARCHIVAL RESEARCH INFORMATION ===

30 August 1993

IN APRIL 1993, THE SRV PROVIDED A DOCUMENT TO GENERAL VESSEY TITLED, "REPORT OF DEATH OF AMERICAN PRISONER FREDERICK J. BURNS, DIED 02/02/68; OUTLINE OF PERSONAL HISTORY AND REPORT OF DEATH OF FREDERICK J. BURNS". THE DOCUMENT CORRELATES TO REFNO 0951-1-01 BASED ON NAME, DATE AND LOCATION OF LOSS AND WITNESS TESTIMONY OF INCIDENT. (REF 7)

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING
BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 20 OCTOBER 1993

===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 0951-1-01 (ACCNO 6222)
Name: BURNS, FREDERICK JOHN

Status: (Z) DEAD BODY NOT RECOVERED
Date Status assigned: 26 Dec 1967

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	#
Service	MARINE CORPS	Sex	MALE	Blood type	# #
Grade	E2	Hair	BROWN	Complexion	RUDDY
SSAN	DATA	Eyes	BLUE	Weapon	#
Serial No	2291773	Height	71 in / 1.80 mtrs	Weapon No	#
Birth date	11 Jun 1949	Weight	148 lb / 67.0 kg	Duty pos	RIFLEMAN
Home State	NEW YORK	Religion	CATHOLIC	PW Camp	QUANG NAM PRO

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

INCIDENT LOCATION (0)

LAST KNOWN LOCATION (1)

Site Type: GROUND SITE
UTM: 49PBT089659
Lat/Long: 155724N / 1081649E
Country: SOUTH VIETNAM
Military Region: 1
Mission Province: QUANG NAM-DA NANG
(formerly): QUANG NAM
Mission District: DIEN BAN
Mission Date: 26 Dec 1967
Mission Category: 3
Local Analysis: None.

49PZC090318
153848N / 1075257E

Near populated area.

===== JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY =====

Folders Passed: Jul 93, Mar 92, Mar 89, Aug 87
Investigations: Apr 92, Aug 93
Surveys: Aug 93
Additional Information Obtained: Apr 89, Aug 90
Vessey Case: NO
Case type: DISCREPANCY

===== VEHICLE DATA =====

Vehicle Type: GRND	Serial: \$
Crash Type: None	Engine Type:
Call Sign: \$	1 Serial:
Year: \$	2 Serial:

===== SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY =====

= Item has been researched but data cannot be obtained.
\$ = Item is not applicable to this case.
@ or Blank = Data for item is unknown or not available.

CASE: 0951

=== CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS ===

3 December 1975

ON 25 DECEMBER 1967 PVT FREDERICK J. BURNS, RIFLEMAN, WAS A MEMBER OF A 10-MAN SQUAD NIGHT PATROL. HIS PRESENCE WAS MISSED SOME TIME AFTER HIS SQUAD MOVED OUT FROM GRID COORDINATES (GC) BT 089 659 IN SOUTH VIETNAM. ACCORDING TO CPT FLOYD KUSHNER'S DEBRIEFING, PVT BURNS WAS CAPTURED ON 26 DECEMBER 1967 WHILE ATTEMPTING TO RETURN TO DA NANG, AFTER BEING SEPARATED FROM HIS PATROL. CPT KUSHNER STATED THAT PVT BURNS ADJUSTED POORLY TO CONFINEMENT, HE SUFFERED PSYCHOLOGICAL REGRESSION DATA AND DIED OF MALNUTRITION.

ANOTHER RELEASEE CLAIMED THAT PVT BURNS WAS BURIED OUTSIDE THE POW CAMP LOCATED SOMEWHERE BETWEEN CHU LAI AND TAM KY IN QUANG NAM PROVINCE, SOUTH VIETNAM. THE NVA CAPTORS ADVISED THAT MAPS WERE MADE SHOWING BURIAL SITES OF ALL POWS AND THAT THESE MAPS WOULD BE TURNED OVER TO U.S. AUTHORITIES AT THE END OF HOSTILITIES. THE DRV/PRG LIST INDICATES THAT PVT BURNS DIED IN CAPTIVITY IN SOUTH VIETNAM ON 2 JANUARY 1969. (REF 1, 2 & 3)

DURING THE EXISTENCE OF JCRC, THE HOSTILE THREAT IN THE AREA PRECLUDED ANY VISITS TO OR GROUND INSPECTIONS OF THE SITES INVOLVED IN THIS CASE. ON SEVERAL OCCASSIONS IN 1973 AND 1974, THE U.S. DELEGATION TO THE FOUR-PARTY JOINT MILITARY TEAM ASKED THE COMMUNIST (PRG) DELEGATION FOR INFORMATION ON THE LOCATION OF THE GRAVE OF THIS INDIVIDUAL, AS WELL AS THOSE OF THE OTHER INDIVIDUALS OFFICIALLY LISTED AS HAVING DIED IN CAPTIVITY. THE U.S. ALSO PRESSED THE COMMUNISTS FOR DISCUSSIONS OF PROCEDURES BY WHICH THE REMAINS OF THESE INDIVIDUALS WOULD BE RETURNED TO U.S. CONTROL.

NO POSITIVE RESPONSE WAS EVER FORTHCOMING FROM THE COMMUNISTS TO ANY OF THESE OVERTURES. PVT BURNS IS CURRENTLY CARRIED IN THE PRESUMPTIVE STATUS OF DEAD, BODY NOT RECOVERED.

=== REFERENCES ===

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CASE: 0951

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20 April 1985

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CASE NARRATIVE WAS PASSED TO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT DURING THE 28 JUL 1993 POW/MIA TECHNICAL MEETING IN HANOI.

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28 July 1975

BURIAL SITE COORDINATES OF BS 140 522 FOR REFNO 0951-0-01 ENTERED BASED ON IR 6-918-5002-73, USDAO SGN RVN, DATED 13 APRIL 1973 AND IR 267/PD05/VNCH/4B, RVN MDPJMT, DATED 28 NOVEMBER 1973.

CASE: 0951

5 August 1975

BURIAL SITE COORDINATES OF ZC 090 318 FOR REFNO 0951-0-01 ENTERED BASED ON IR 6-918-5404-74, USDAO SGN RVN, DTG 060843Z MAR 74.

11 August 1993

PER MAJOR COORDINATE CHANGE 5 AUGUST 1975 LISTING THE BURIAL SITE AS ZC090318, AN INCORRECT LAT/LONG CONVERSION WAS LISTED ON REPORT UPDATE. THE CORRECT CONVERSION IS NOTED FOR LAST KNOWN LOCATION AS LAT/LONG 153848N/1075257E. (REF 6)

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14 September 1993

THE JOINT TEAM INTERVIEWED ONE WITNESS WHO ALLEGEDLY PARTICIPATED IN THE CAPTURE OF AN AMERICAN SOLDIER IN THE DIEN DUONG VILLAGE AREA (BT 0965), AND SUBSEQUENT TRANSFER OF SAID PRISONER TO TWO MEMBERS OF THE DA NANG DISTRICT III FORCE. THE WITNESS PROVIDED HEARSAY THAT THIS AMERICAN PRISONER WAS TRANSPORTED AND HELD AT A PRISON CAMP IN THE TRUONG SON MOUNTAINS. (REF 8)

8 October 1993

ON 25 AUG 93, IE3 TRAVELLED TO DIEN BAN DISTRICT, QUANG NAM-DA NANG PROVINCE TO INVESTIGATE CASE 0951. VNOSMP OFFICIALS CLAIMED THEY COULD NOT LOCATE ANY WITNESSES FOR THIS CASE. A LIST OF TWELVE WITNESSES WAS PRESENTED TO VIETNAMESE OFFICIALS. HOWEVER, NO WITNESSES WERE PRESENTED FOR INTERVIEW. THE NEAREST LANDING ZONE TO THIS SITE IS OVER 15 KILOMETERS AWAY. DUE TO THE REMOTE MOUNTAINOUS TERRAIN, DENSE JUNGLE AND GREAT DISTANCE TO TRAVEL ON FOOT, THE TEAM COULD NOT CONDUCT A SEARCH OF THIS AREA SAFELY. THE TEAM CONDUCTED AN AERIAL SEARCH OF THE INCIDENT LOCATION MAINTAINED IN U.S. RECORDS AND FOUND NO EVIDENCE OF A PRISON CAMP. NO REMAINS OR MATERIAL EVIDENCE WERE FOUND DURING THE INVESTIGATION OF THIS CASE. A LIST OF POTENTIAL WITNESSES THAT COULD POSSIBLY LEAD A JOINT TEAM TO THE CAMP WAS PRESENTED TO VIETNAMESE OFFICIALS. HOWEVER, NONE OF THESE PEOPLE WERE LOCATED DURING THE 25TH JOINT FIELD ACTIVITY. THE VNOSMP DID NOT MAKE A SERIOUS ATTEMPT TO LOCATE THESE WITNESSES. (REF

CASE: 0951

11)

=== ARCHIVAL RESEARCH INFORMATION ===

30 August 1993

IN APRIL 1993, THE SRV PROVIDED A DOCUMENT TO GENERAL VESSEY TITLED, "REPORT OF DEATH OF AMERICAN PRISONER FREDERICK J. BURNS, DIED 02/02/68; OUTLINE OF PERSONAL HISTORY AND REPORT OF DEATH OF FREDERICK J. BURNS". THE DOCUMENT CORRELATES TO REFNO 0951-1-01 BASED ON NAME, DATE AND LOCATION OF LOSS AND WITNESS TESTIMONY OF INCIDENT. (REF 7)

23 September 1993

SRV DOCUMENT PROVIDED APRIL 93, TITLED "ROSTER OF AMERICAN PRISONERS WHO DIED AND FOREIGN CIVILIANS CAPTURED IN THE CENTRAL REGION" POSSIBLY CORRELATES TO REFNO 0951-1-01. LINE ENTRY #8 PROBABLY CORRELATES TO REFNO 0951-1-01, BASED ON REFNO'S NAME. (REF 9)

28 September 1993

SRV DOCUMENT PROVIDED IN APR 93, TITLED "LIST OF AMERICAN PRISONERS THAT DIED IN THE SOUTH AFTER THEIR CAPTURE," CORRELATES TO REFNO 0951-1-01. LINE ENTRY #24 CORRELATES BASED ON THE INDIVIDUAL'S NAME. (REF 10)

15 October 1993

ON 1 SEP 93, THE VIETNAMESE TURNED OVER BRIEF CASE ASSESSMENTS FOR EACH OF THE 27 DIED IN CAPTIVITY CASES. THE ASSESSMENTS WERE IN RESPONSE TO A U.S. PRESENTATION OF THE D.I.C. LIST AS GUIDE FOR SPECIAL REMAINS TEAM INVESTIGATION. ONE OF THESE CASES WAS REFNO 0951, WHICH THE VIETNAMESE RECOMMENDED FOR CONTINUED JOINT INVESTIGATION. (REF 12)



JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING
CAMP H. M. SMITH, HAWAII 96861-5025

21 JUL 1993

CASE 0951-1-01

NARRATIVE

ON 25 DECEMBER 1967, PRIVATE FIRST CLASS FREDERICK J. BURNS WAS CAPTURED NEAR THANH THUY VILLAGE, IN THE VICINITY OF GRID COORDINATES BT089659, QUANG NAM-DA NANG PROVINCE. PRIVATE FIRST CLASS BURNS WAS HELD WITH OTHER U.S. PRISONERS AT THE MOBILE MILITARY REGION 5 PRISONER OF WAR CAMP IN WESTERN QUANG NAM-DA NANG PROVINCE. PRIVATE BURNS' GRAVE WAS MARKED WITH A ROCK ON WHICH WAS PAINTED HIS NAME AND DATE OF DEATH. ONE OF THE VIETNAMESE GUARDS TOLD THE OTHER U.S. PRISONERS THAT MAPS OF ALL BURIAL SITES WERE MADE AND THAT THESE MAPS WOULD BE PROVIDED TO THE U.S. AUTHORITIES UPON THE CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES. IN JANUARY 1973, THE PROVISIONAL REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH VIETNAM PROVIDED A LIST OF THOSE INDIVIDUALS WHO DIED IN CAPTIVITY. THE LIST INDICATED PRIVATE FIRST CLASS BURNS DIED ON 2 JANUARY 1969.

IN AUGUST 1990, A JOINT TEAM VISITED TRA GIAC VILLAGE TO INVESTIGATE A REPORT THAT SIX AMERICANS WERE BURIED AT THE FORMER MILITARY REGION 5 PRISON CAMP ALSO KNOWN AS THE TRA KHE-TRA GIAC CAMP REPORTEDLY LOCATED IN THE VICINITY OF GRID COORDINATES BS1390 AND AS9990. THE TEAM INTERVIEWED WITNESSES WHO REPORTED THAT MILITARY REGION 5 OFFICIALS HAD EXHUMED THE GRAVES IN 1979. ONE WITNESS REPORTED THAT FREDERICK JOHN BURNS WAS BURIED IN GRAVE FIVE.

Passed to officials of the
Vietnamese government during a
28 Jul 93 technical meeting

IN APRIL 1992, A JOINT TEAM TRAVELED TO DIEN DUONG VILLAGE (BT1064), DIEN BAN DISTRICT, QUANG NAM-DA NANG PROVINCE AND INTERVIEWED A WITNESS WHO REPORTEDLY PARTICIPATED IN THE CAPTURE OF AN AMERICAN SOLDIER SOMETIME IN LATE 1967 OR EARLY 1968. THE AMERICAN SOLDIER WAS SUBSEQUENTLY TRANSFERRED TO TWO MEMBERS OF THE DA NANG DISTRICT III FORCE. THE WITNESS SAID HE HEARD THE AMERICAN PRISONER WAS HELD AT A PRISON CAMP IN THE TRUONG SON MOUNTAINS.

IN SEPTEMBER 1992, A JOINT TEAM INTERVIEWED FOUR WITNESSES CONCERNING THE MILITARY REGION 5 CAMP. THE FIRST WITNESS SERVED AS A TRANSLATOR/INTERROGATOR AT THE MOBILE CAMP WHERE BETWEEN 8 AND 10 AMERICANS WERE HELD DURING THE LATE 60'S. THE WITNESS IDENTIFIED BY NAME SEVERAL U.S. SERVICEMEN WHO WERE HELD AT THE CAMP DURING HIS TENURE THERE. HE REPORTED THAT SOMETIME IN 1972 OR 1973, HE RETURNED TO THE TRA KHE CAMP SITE AND ATTEMPTED TO LOCATE AND SKETCH THE EXACT LOCATION OF EVERY AMERICAN GRAVE. HE SAID HE LOCATED ALL THE GRAVE SITES EXCEPT FOR EISENBRAUN (CASE 0106) AND WEATHERMAN (CASE 0895). THE WITNESS DID NOT KNOW THE SUBSEQUENT DISPOSITION OF THE SKETCHES BUT HE SURMISED THEY WERE USED IN THE RECOVERY EFFORT IN 1979. A SECOND WITNESS PARTICIPATED IN THE RECOVERY OF FIVE OF THE SIX REMAINS BURIED AT THE CAMP DURING 1978-1979. THE SIXTH REMAINS, WHICH WAS REPORTEDLY BURIED IN THE SAME GENERAL VICINITY, WAS NEVER FOUND.

THE WITNESS REPORTED THAT SENIOR CAPTAIN DANG THANH, WHO HAD WORKED FOR THE MILITARY REGION 5 PROSELYTING SECTION DURING THE WAR, DIRECTED THE EXHUMATION EFFORTS. THE THIRD WITNESS REPORTED HE OCCASIONALLY VISITED THE CAMP DURING THE TWO YEARS IT WAS LOCATED NEAR TRA KHE, FROM LATE 1967 THROUGH LATE 1969. HIS MILITIA UNIT INITIALLY PROVIDED CAMP SECURITY BUT HE REPORTED THAT THIS FUNCTION WAS LATER ASSUMED BY TROOPS UNDER THE COMMAND OF BUI VAN THANH. A FOURTH WITNESS REPORTED HE FIRST VISITED THE TRA KHE CAMP SOMETIME IN 1968. HE RECALLED THAT TOWARD THE END OF 1968 OR THE BEGINNING OF 1969, THE PRISONER POPULATION HAD GROWN TO AROUND 12 OR 13. HE INDICATED THAT BUI VAN THANH WAS IN CHARGE OF THE PLATOON SIZED UNIT THAT PROVIDED CAMP SECURITY. IN JANUARY 1973, THE WITNESS RETURNED TO THE TRA KHE CAMP TO ISOLATE AND SKETCH THE LOCATIONS OF THE AMERICANS THAT HAD DIED THERE. HE SAID BUI VAN THANH LED THE GROUP WHICH ALSO INCLUDED THE FIRST WITNESS. HE RECALLED THAT FIVE OR SIX AMERICAN GRAVES WERE RECORDED DURING THIS VISIT.

THE JOINT TEAM VISITED THE SITE OF THE FORMER CAMP LOCATED NEAR TRA KHE VILLAGE, TRA BONG DISTRICT, QUANG NGAI, AND LOCATED EIGHT HOLES, FIVE ALLEGED TO BE PREVIOUSLY DISINTERRED BURIAL SITES AND THREE ALLEGED TEST PITS DUG BY THE VIETNAMESE LOOKING FOR REMAINS. THE TEAM SEARCHED THE AREA BUT FOUND NO MATERIAL EVIDENCE AND NO EVIDENCE OF HUMAN REMAINS.

CASE 0951-1-01

PERTINENT DATA ARE AS FOLLOWS:

NAME: BURNS, FREDERICK JOHN

RANK: PRIVATE FIRST CLASS, U.S. MARINE CORPS

DATE OF BIRTH: 11 JUNE 1949

RACE: CAUCASIAN

HEIGHT: 1.80 METERS

WEIGHT: 67.0 KILOGRAMS

HAIR: BROWN

EYES: BLUE

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING
BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 18 FEBRUARY 1994

===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 0951-1-01 (ACCNO 6222)
Name: BURNS, FREDERICK JOHN

Status: (Z) DEAD BODY NOT RECOVERED
Date Status assigned: 26 Dec 1967

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	#
Service	MARINE CORPS	Sex	MALE	Blood type	# #
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SSAN	DATA	Eyes	BLUE	Weapon	#
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===== SITE INFORMATION =====

	INCIDENT LOCATION (0)	LAST KNOWN LOCATION (1)
Site Type:	GROUND SITE	
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Lat/Long:	155724N / 1081649E	153848N / 1075257E
Country:	SOUTH VIETNAM	
Military Region:	1	
Mission Province:	QUANG NAM-DA NANG	
(formerly):	QUANG NAM	
Mission District:	DIEN BAN	
Mission Date:	26 Dec 1967	
Mission Category:	3	
Local Analysis:	None.	Near populated area.

===== JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY =====

Folders Passed: Jul 93, Mar 92, Mar 89, Aug 87
Investigations: Apr 92, Aug 93
Surveys: Aug 93, Jan 94
Additional Information Obtained: Apr 89, Aug 90
Vessey Case: NO
Case type: DISCREPANCY

===== VEHICLE DATA =====

Vehicle Type: GRND	Serial: \$
Crash Type: None	Engine Type:
Call Sign: \$	1 Serial:
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===== SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY =====

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JOINT TEAM TO THE CAMP WAS PRESENTED TO VIETNAMESE OFFICIALS. HOWEVER,
NONE OF THESE PEOPLE WERE LOCATED DURING THE 25TH JOINT FIELD ACTIVITY.
THE VNOSMP DID NOT MAKE A SERIOUS ATTEMPT TO LOCATE THESE WITNESSES. (REF

CASE: 0951

11)

15 February 1994

ON 13 AND 14 JAN 94, A PORTION OF RE1 CONDUCTED A SITE SURVEY NEAR TRA KEH
VILLAGE, TRA BONG DISTRICT, QUANG NGAI PROVINCE. THE SITE IS LOCATED AT
GRID COORDINATE 49PBS1265082363. THE GRID COORDINATE WAS VERIFIED USING
THE TRIMBLE TRIMPACK RECEIVER FOR THE GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM, TRACKING
FIVE SATELLITES. THE SITE IS LOCATED ALONG THE RIDGE OF A STEEP MOUNTAIN.
WHAT WAS ONCE A PW CAMP HAS SINCE BEEN ENTIRELY CLEARED BY THE LOCAL
VILLAGERS FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES. THE PROJECT AREA IS LOCATED ON
RELATIVELY FLAT TERRAIN, AND IT TOO HAS BEEN CLEARED OF ALL EXISTING
VEGETATION. AN LZ CAN BE MADE AT THE SITE. THIS WOULD PREVENT A RECOVERY
TEAM, WITH EQUIPMENT, FROM HIKING THE ENTIRE TRAIL AND MINIMIZE THE CHANCE
FOR SERIOUS INJURY. A BASECAMP CAN BE SET UP NEAR THE SITE. THE SITE
ITSELF MEASURES APPROXIMATELY 30 X 30 METERS, AND WILL TAKE 15 TO 20 DAYS
TO EXCAVATE UNDER FAVORABLE WEATHER CONDITIONS. (REF 13)

=== ARCHIVAL RESEARCH INFORMATION ===

30 August 1993

IN APRIL 1993, THE SRV PROVIDED A DOCUMENT TO GENERAL VESSEY TITLED,
"REPORT OF DEATH OF AMERICAN PRISONER FREDERICK J. BURNS, DIED 02/02/68;
OUTLINE OF PERSONAL HISTORY AND REPORT OF DEATH OF FREDERICK J. BURNS".
THE DOCUMENT CORRELATES TO REFNO 0951-1-01 BASED ON NAME, DATE AND
LOCATION OF LOSS AND WITNESS TESTIMONY OF INCIDENT. (REF 7)

23 September 1993

SRV DOCUMENT PROVIDED APRIL 93, TITLED "ROSTER OF AMERICAN PRISONERS WHO
DIED AND FOREIGN CIVILIANS CAPTURED IN THE CENTRAL REGION" POSSIBLY
CORRELATES TO REFNO 0951-1-01. LINE ENTRY #8 PROBABLY CORRELATES TO REFNO
0951-1-01, BASED ON REFNO'S NAME. (REF 9)

28 September 1993

SRV DOCUMENT PROVIDED IN APR 93, TITLED "LIST OF AMERICAN PRISONERS THAT
DIED IN THE SOUTH AFTER THEIR CAPTURE," CORRELATES TO REFNO 0951-1-01.
LINE ENTRY #24 CORRELATES BASED ON THE INDIVIDUAL'S NAME. (REF 10)

15 October 1993

ON 1 SEP 93, THE VIETNAMESE TURNED OVER BRIEF CASE ASSESSMENTS FOR EACH OF
THE 27 DIED IN CAPTIVITY CASES. THE ASSESSMENTS WERE IN RESPONSE TO A
U.S. PRESENTATION OF THE D.I.C. LIST AS GUIDE FOR SPECIAL REMAINS TEAM
INVESTIGATION. ONE OF THESE CASES WAS REFNO 0951, WHICH THE VIETNAMESE

CASE: 0951

RECOMMENDED FOR CONTINUED JOINT INVESTIGATION. (REF 12)

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING

BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 17 DECEMBER 1993

===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 0953-0-01 (ACCNO 5680) Status: (A) DEAD BODY NOT RECOVERED
Name: MARTIN, SAMMY ARTHUR Date Status assigned: 18 Feb 1976

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	#
Service	AIR FORCE	Sex	MALE	Blood type	A +
Grade	O2	Hair	BROWN	Complexion	#
SSAN		Eyes	GREY	Weapon	#
Serial No	DATA	Height	70 in / 1.78 mtrs	Weapon No	#
Birth date	16 Oct 1942	Weight	180 lb / 81.5 kg	Duty pos	PILOT
Home State	TEXAS	Religion	PROTESTANT	PW Camp	\$

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

INCIDENT LOCATION (0)

Site Type: WATER SITE
UTM: 48QYE283304
Lat/Long: 172658N / 1070860E
Country: OVER WATER - VN
Military Region: \$
Mission Province: VN - OVERWATER
(formerly):
Mission District: VN - OVERWATER
Mission Date: 27 Dec 1967
Mission Category: 3
Local Analysis: None.

===== JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY =====

No Information Available

===== VEHICLE DATA =====

Vehicle Type: F4C	Serial: 7489
Crash Type: Enemy action	Engine Type: J79
Call Sign: CARBINE 01	1 Serial: 418204
Year: 63	2 Serial: 418227

===== SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY =====

= Item has been researched but data cannot be obtained.
\$ = Item is not applicable to this case.
@ or Blank = Data for item is unknown or not available.